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| 09/871,485 | 05/31/2001 | Hovhannes Ghukasyan | HPLA.005US0 | 8744 |
| 28661 | 7590 | 01/20/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| SIERRA PATENT GROUP, LTD. 1657 Hwy 395, Suite 202 Minden, NV 89423 | | | PHAM, HUNG Q | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/871,485 | Applicant(s) GHUKASYAN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner HUNG Q. PHAM | Art Unit 2168 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/04/2005 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 11/04/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As argued by applicants at page 6, lines 5-10, 10-15, 18-20, 21-23 and 24-26:

(1) *Yeager does not teach a data importer that appends data associated with new parameters to a table created for the new parameters responsive to a determination that said data is associated with a new parameter. Instead, Yeager teaches that when a column identifier is detected that is not in the table, a user is asked to decide whether to create a new column in the existing table or ignore the data. See Col. 27, line 14-27.*

(2) *There is no teaching of creating a new table with the new parameter in response to a determination made by the importer as recited in the claim. Instead, Yeager gives a user a choice of generating a new table with the new column or ignoring the data. The advantage of the claimed invention being that the new table with the new parameter may store the data in a related table without disturbing current relationships of the existing tables.*

(3) *Claims 2-8 are dependent upon claim 1. Thus, claims 2-8 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. All other rejections to the claims are moot.*

(4) Claim 9 recites the method for adding the imported data performed by the data importer. Thus, claim 9 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

(5) Claim 10 is dependent upon claim 9. Therefore claim 10 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 9

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

(1) As illustrated at FIG. 21 and Col. 26, Lines 25-54, the DGUI imports new table contents through a keyword-driven batch text file. Additionally, the batch text file may also be used to add new table columns, i.e., modify the data dictionary. A portion of a sample batch text file, which may be imported into the relational database 24 by the DGUI is shown below:

```
LEVEL5
BARCODE=`1345`
PARTNO=`FE12822`
LOCATION=`HAB1.sub.-- P1.sub.-- A1`
STATUS=`100% Full`
ENDLEVEL5
LEVEL5.sub.-- CATALOG
PARTNO=`FE12822`
DESCRIPTION=`Portable Fire Extinguisher`
ENDLEVEL5.sub.--CATALOG
```

As seen, DGUI as a data importer receiving input from batch text file as an input file including`1345`, `FE12822`... as data to be imported into said database, LEVEL5 as an indication of one of said related groups that is associated with said data, and BARCODE, PARTNO ... as indications of parameters associated with said data.

Referring back to FIG. 21, and Col. 26, Line 55-Col. 27, Line 19, at step 290, the DGUI reads in the table name associated with the TABLE_NAME variable, which

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begins each entry. For example, for the variable LEVEL5, the DGUI reads in the table name TRAKVU_L5. Next, at step 292, the DGUI reads in each line of the entry and parses each line into a keyword/column name, and the value of the keyword/column. Next, at step 294, a determination is made as to whether the keyword read at step 292 matches an existing column name stored within the Data Dictionary. If a match is found, the database contents are updated at step 296. As seen, the DGUI as *data importer determines whether keyword data*, e.g., 1345`, `FE12822`, matching or *associating with an existing parameter*, e.g., an existing column name. If a match is found or *responsive to a determination that said data is associated with an existing parameter, appending `1345`, `FE12822`... as one or more portions of said data associated with existing parameters*, e.g., existing column name, to TRAKVU_L5 as *corresponding one or more existing tables associated with said existing parameters and having TRAKVU_L5C as tables of said one of said related groups as references.*

(2) If a negative determination is made at step 294, i.e., the keyword does not match an existing column in the specified table, then the user is preferably given the option at step 298 to create a new column for the specified table. If the user opts to create a new column, the DGUI generates a SQL command to make the necessary modifications to the data dictionary (Col. 27, Lines 19-26). FIG. 13 is the process initiated by a user request to access the relational database 24 following a modification to the data dictionary. The first step 152 determines the names of the database tables, which are to be edited by the user. Next, the names and attributes of each column within each of the tables are determined at step 154 (Col. 20, Lines 1-30). Yeager

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further discloses that the import process shown in FIG. 21 is called from within a loop so that the steps shown in FIG. 21 are followed for each complete entry within the batch text file (Col. 26, Lines 62-64). As seen, if a negative determination is made at step 294 *as responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter, data dictionary is updated by creating a new table with new table name as identifications, new column names as parameters, and attributes of the columns as information, and the import process as in FIG. 21 is looped back to append data associated with new parameters to a new table created for new parameters as discussed above. In short, the technique as discussed indicates the DGUI as data importer appends data associated with new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters, and updates said data dictionary to include said identifications and information of said new table and new parameters responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter.*

(3) Claims 2-8 are dependent upon claim 1. Thus, claims 2-8 are rejected for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

(4) Claim 9 recites the method for adding the imported data performed by the data importer. Thus, claim 9 is rejected for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

(5) Claim 10 is dependent upon claim 9. Therefore claim 10 is rejected for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

In view of the above, the examiner contends that all limitations as recited in the claims are taught or suggested in USP 5,950,190 issued to Yeager.

Claim Objections

Claim 9 is objected to because of the following informalities: *data associated with new parameters* (in order to have a consistency of terminology, "input data" is suggested).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

As in claim 1, the claimed *data importer determines whether data is associated with an existing parameter, appends... responsive to a determination that said data is associated with an existing parameter, appends... responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter* was not described in the specification.

As in claim 9, the steps of determining input data associated with existing parameters and data associated with new parameters, forming a set of existing parameters... responsive to forming said set of existing parameters, importing a remaining portion... responsive to forming said set of new parameters were not described in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The clause *said data* in the step “appending one or more portions of said data” references to a plurality of data. It is unclear what data is being referenced.

The clause *responsive to determining said data in said input data associated with existing parameters and said data in said input data* references to some other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Yeager et al. [USP 5,950,190].

Regarding claim 1, Yeager teaches a database management system (Col. 1, Lines 10-20). The Yeager system comprising:

a data dictionary including identifications of related groups of tables in a database, information of tables in said related groups, and identifications of parameters of said related groups (The relational database as disclosed by Yeager is categorized into five organizational levels. For example, the tables 25 and 26 shown in FIG. 1 are referred to as *Level 5* tables (Col. 9, Lines 20-35). The *data dictionary* of Yeager system is visualized as a listing of all the tables within a relational database and the relations between those tables and their individual columns similar to that shown in FIG. 1 (Col. 7, Line 64-Col. 8, Line 3). The *data dictionary* is stored in hard disk 37 (Col. 8, Lines 35-40). As shown at FIG. 8, a screenshot of the structure of a table in data dictionary is illustrated (Col. 13, Line 61-Col. 14, Line 14), wherein L5_BARCODE, VARCHAR2, 80... indicates information of tables correspond to the group of tables of FIG. 1 (FIG. 8). As seen, the *data dictionary* as taught by Yeager includes *Level 5* as *identifications of related groups of tables in a database*, L5_BARCODE, VARCHAR2, 80... as *information of tables in said related groups, and table names such as TRAKVU_L5,*

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TRAKVU_V5C of FIG. 1 as *identifications of* BARCODE, PARTNO, LOCATION... as *parameters of said related groups*);

a data importer receiving an input from an input file including data to be imported into said database, an indication of one of said related groups that is associated with said data, and indications of parameters associated with said data (As illustrated at FIG. 21 and Col. 26, Lines 25-54, the DGUI imports new table contents through a keyword-driven batch text file. Additionally, the batch text file may also be used to add new table columns, i.e., modify the data dictionary. A portion of a sample batch text file, which may be imported into the relational database 24 by the DGUI is shown below:

```

LEVEL5
BARCODE=`1345`
PARTNO=`FE12822`
LOCATION=`HAB1.sub.-- P1.sub.-- A1`
STATUS=`100% Full`
ENDLEVEL5
LEVEL5.sub.-- CATALOG
PARTNO=`FE12822`
DESCRIPTION=`Portable Fire Extinguisher`
ENDLEVEL5.sub.--CATALOG

```

As seen, DGUI as *a data importer receiving input from batch text file as an input file including`1345`, `FE12822`... as data to be imported into said database, LEVEL5 as an indication of one of said related groups that is associated with said data, and BARCODE, PARTNO ... as indications of parameters associated with said data*),

wherein said data importer

determines whether data is associated with an existing parameter (FIG. 21, block 294, at step 294, a determination is made as to whether the keyword read at step 292 matches an existing column name stored within the Data Dictionary. As seen, the

DGUI as *data importer determines whether keyword data, e.g., 1345~, `FE12822`, matching or associating with an existing parameter, e.g., an existing column name),*

appends one or more portions of said data associated with existing parameters to corresponding one or more existing tables associated with said existing parameters and having tables of said one of said related groups as references responsive to a determination that said data is associated with an existing parameter (Referring back to FIG. 21, and Col. 26, Line 55-Col. 27, Line 19, at step 290, the DGUI reads in the table name associated with the TABLE_NAME variable, which begins each entry. For example, for the variable LEVEL5, the DGUI reads in the table name TRAKVU_L5. Next, at step 292, the DGUI reads in each line of the entry and parses each line into a keyword/column name, and the value of the keyword/column. Next, at step 294, a determination is made as to whether the keyword read at step 292 matches an existing column name stored within the Data Dictionary. If a match is found, the database contents are updated at step 296. As seen, if a match is found or responsive to a determination that said data is associated with an existing parameter, DGUI appends `1345~, `FE12822`... as one or more portions of said data associated with existing parameters, e.g., existing column name, to TRAKVU_L5 as corresponding one or more existing tables associated with said existing parameters and having TRAKVU_L5C as tables of said one of said related groups as references),

appends data associated with new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters, and updates said data dictionary to include said identifications and information of said new table and new parameters responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter (If a negative determination is made at step 294, i.e., the keyword does

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not match an existing column in the specified table, then the user is preferably given the option at step 298 to create a new column for the specified table. If the user opts to create a new column, the DGUI generates a SQL command to make the necessary modifications to the data dictionary (Col. 27, Lines 19-26). FIG. 13 is the process initiated by a user request to access the relational database 24 following a modification to the data dictionary. The first step 152 determines the names of the database tables, which are to be edited by the user. Next, the names and attributes of each column within each of the tables are determined at step 154 (Col. 20, Lines 1-30). Yeager further discloses that the import process shown in FIG. 21 is called from within a loop so that the steps shown in FIG. 21 are followed for each complete entry within the batch text file (Col. 26, Lines 62-64). As seen, if a negative determination is made at step 294 as *responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter, data dictionary is updated by creating a new table with new table name as identifications, new column names as parameters, and attributes of the columns as information, and the import process as in FIG. 21 is looped back to append data associated with new parameters to a new table created for new parameters as discussed above. In short, the technique as discussed indicates the DGUI as data importer appends data associated with new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters, and updates said data dictionary to include said identifications and information of said new table and new parameters responsive to a determination that said data is not associated with an existing parameter).*

Regarding claim 2, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, Yeager further discloses *a query front-end providing a parameter tree to be displayed to users for facilitating database queries* (FIG. 4, Col. 9, Line 63-Col. 10, Line 10), *wherein said data dictionary further includes information for said parameter tree* (FIG. 8), *and said data importer further updates said information for said parameter tree to include information of said new table and new parameters* (FIG. 13 and 14).

Regarding claim 3, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, but does not explicitly teach *data dictionary has a reference groups table for storing indications of related groups of tables, including columns for reference groups identifications and reference groups names*. However, a table for storing information is a conventional structure for storing information such as the table as in FIG. 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use table for storing data in order to organize the database.

Regarding claim 4, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, but does not explicitly teach *data dictionary has a references table for storing information of reference tables for individual of said related group of tables*. However, a table for storing information is a conventional structure for storing information such as the table as in FIG. 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use table for storing data in order to organize the database.

Regarding claim 5, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, Yeager further discloses *data dictionary has a parameters table for storing information of parameters associated with individual of said related group of tables* (FIG. 8).

Regarding claim 6, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 2, Yeager further discloses *data dictionary has a folders table for storing information of a parameter tree to be provided to said query front-end* (FIG. 4).

Regarding claim 7, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 6, Yeager further discloses *data dictionary has a parameters table for storing information of parameters associated with individual of said related group of tables* (FIG. 8).

Regarding claim 8, Yeager teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed in claim 7, Yeager further discloses *data dictionary has a parameters-to-folders mapping table for mapping said information of parameters to corresponding information in said folders table* (FIG. 4 and 6).

Regarding claim 9, Yeager teaches a method of managing database management system (Col. 1, Lines 10-20). The Yeager method comprises:

receiving an input from an input file including data to be imported into a database, an indication of a related group of tables that is associated with said data, and indications of parameters associated with said data (As illustrated at FIG. 21 and Col. 26, Lines 25-54, the DGUI imports new table contents through a keyword-driven batch text file. Additionally, the batch text file may also be used to add new table columns, i.e., modify the data dictionary. A portion of a

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sample batch text file, which may be imported into the relational database 24 by the DGUI is shown below:

```
LEVEL5
BARCODE=`1345`
PARTNO=`FE12822`
LOCATION=`HAB1.sub.-- P1.sub.-- A1`
STATUS=`100% Full`
ENDLEVEL5
LEVEL5.sub.-- CATALOG
PARTNO=`FE12822`
DESCRIPTION=`Portable Fire Extinguisher`
ENDLEVEL5.sub.--CATALOG
```

As seen, the technique as discussed indicates the step *receiving input from batch text file as an input file including `1345`, `FE12822`... as data to be imported into said database, LEVEL5 as an indication of one of said related groups that is associated with said data, and BARCODE, PARTNO ... as indications of parameters associated with said data*);

determining input data associated with existing parameters and data associated with new parameters (FIG. 21, block 294, at step 294, a determination is made as to whether the keyword read at step 292 matches an existing column name stored within the Data Dictionary. As seen, the DGUI as *data importer determines whether keyword data, e.g., 1345`, `FE12822`, matching or associating with an existing parameter, e.g., an existing column name*);

forming a set of existing parameters and a set of new parameters from said parameters associated with said data, based upon parameter information stored in a data dictionary for said related group of tables responsive to determining said data in said input data associated with existing parameters and said data in said input data; appending one or more portions of said data associated with said set of existing parameters to corresponding one or more existing tables having said related group of tables as references in said database responsive to forming said set of existing parameters (Referring back to FIG. 21, at step 290, the DGUI reads in the table name associated with the TABLE_NAME variable, which begins each entry. For example, for the variable LEVEL5, the DGUI reads in the table

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name TRAKVU_L5. Next, at step 292, the DGUI reads in each line of the entry and parses each line into a keyword/column name, and the value of the keyword/column. Next, at step 294, a determination is made as to whether the keyword/column read at step 292 matches an existing column name stored within the Data Dictionary. If a match is found, the database contents are updated at step 296 (Col. 26, Line 55-Col. 27, Line 19). *As seen, a set of existing parameters and a set of new parameters from said parameters associated with said data is formed based on step 294 responsive to determining said data in said input data associated with existing parameters and said data in said input data, the DGUI appends `1345`, `FE12822`... as one or more portions of said data associated with BARCODE, PARTNO ... as existing parameters to TRAKVU_L5 as corresponding one or more existing tables having LEVEL5 as related groups of tables as references in said database responsive to forming said set of existing parameters);*

importing a remaining portion of said data associated with said set of new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters responsive to forming said set of new parameters; and updating information in said data dictionary to include identifications and information of said new table and new parameters (If a negative determination is made at step 294, i.e., the keyword does not match an existing column in the specified table, then the user is preferably given the option at step 298 to create a new column for the specified table. If the user opts to create a new column, the DGUI generates a SQL command to make the necessary modifications to the data dictionary (Col. 27, Lines 19-26). FIG. 13 is the process initiated by a user request to access the relational database 24 following a modification to the data dictionary. The first step 152 determines the names of the database tables, which are to be edited by the user. Next, the names and attributes of each column within each of the tables are determined at step 154 (Col. 20, Lines 1-30). Yeager further discloses that

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the import process shown in FIG. 21 is called from within a loop so that the steps shown in FIG. 21 are followed for each complete entry within the batch text file (Col. 26, Lines 62-64). As seen, if a *new* column or *parameter* in the batch file is determined, *data dictionary* is updated by creating *a new table with new table name as identifications, new column names as parameters, and attributes of the columns as information, and the import process as in FIG. 21 is looped back to import a remaining portion of said data associated with said set of new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters responsive to forming said set of new parameters as discussed above. In short, the technique as discussed indicates the step of importing a remaining portion of said data associated with said set of new parameters to a new table created for said new parameters responsive to forming said set of new parameters, and updating information in said data dictionary to include identifications and information of said new table and new parameters).*


Regarding claim 10, Yeager teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 9, Yeager further discloses the step of *identifying said one or more existing tables having said related group of tables as references in said database from information in said data dictionary linking said one or more existing tables to said existing parameters* (Col. 26, Line 62-Col. 27, Line 26).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JEFFREY A. GAFFIN can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


HUNG Q PHAM
Examiner
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January 17, 2006